YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

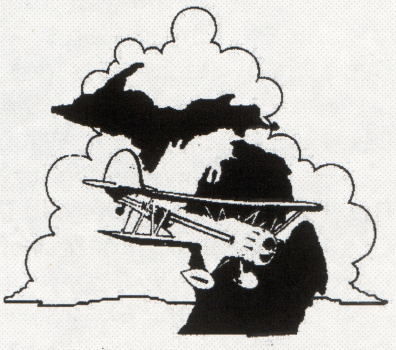
# HANGAR HAPPENINGS

The Newsletter of the Yankee Air Museum

*What's happening in and about the Yankee Air Museum*

DECEMBER 2005

## Michigan Aviation Hall of Fame



*General Arthur P. Tesner*

***Spirit of Flight Award***

***2005***

***Presented to***

**Yankee Air Museum**

The Yankee Air Museum is presented the Brigadier General Arthur P. Tesner *Spirit of Flight Award* for their outstanding achievement in preserving Michigan aviation history.

In 1981 a few people who shared the desire to preserve the facts and glamour of southeastern Michigan's aviation history started the Yankee Air Museum. They formed the plans for an imaginative venture that is still growing today.

From an historic hangar at Willow Run Airport in Ypsilanti, Michigan, the idea grew. The 1941 hangar, which played a role in the production of nearly 8,700 B-24 'Liberator' bombers, became the focal point of their aviation museum. The museum includes flyable examples of historic aircraft as well as static displays and display rooms filled with historic artifacts.

Their idea has now spread to other locales. Today there are over 3,000 Yankee Air Museum members throughout the United States and the world.

The Yankee Air Museum is committed to keeping our nation's aviation history alive. Nowhere is this better demonstrated than in the maintenance and operation of their 'Flying Classics'. The Yankee Air Museum operates restored flying models of the C-47, B-25D and B-17G. These combat aircraft were all flown by members of the 8th Air Force during WWII. The Yankee Air Museum strives to provide special recognition for the crews/aircraft of the heroic 8th and other airmen of the Army Air Corps.

During the summer they tour the country on the air show circuit. After suffering a devastating fire in 2004 the Yankee Air Museum is in the process of rebuilding new hangars and facilities.

The Yankee Air Museum deserves special recognition in Michigan's aviation history.

## Spirit of Flight Award given to Yankee at event in Kalamazoo

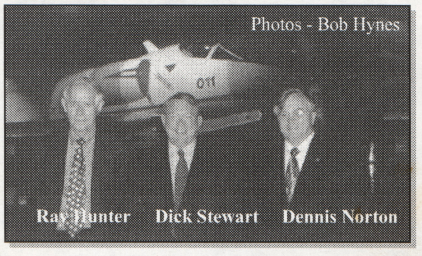
President-elect **Dick Stewart**, long time board member **Ray Hunter**, Yankee member #1 and Michigan Aerospace Foundation president **Dennis Norton**, and Yankee public relations director and board member-elect **Bob Hynes** traveled to the Kalamazoo Air Zoo October 1st to attend the Michigan Aviation Hall of Fame ceremonies, to accept the ***Spirit of Flight Award*** on behalf of Yankee Air Museum.

This award and the recognition that accompanies it is a real validation of the efforts that so many Yankee members have put in over the years. Well done and congratulations to all of us!

Left, l-r
Bob Hynes

Dennis Norton

Dick Stewart



**Yankee Air Force, Inc.**
d/b/a **Yankee Air Museum**
A Non-Profit Organization
501(c)(3)
Hangar 2 - South & West Access
Willow Run Airport
Belleville, Michigan USA

***Hangar Happenings*** is the monthly newsletter of the Yankee Air Museum.

**Founding Editor:** **Bill Abbott**
1919 - 2000

**Graphic Artist:** Evelyn Rouse

**Staff:**
Dave "Drano" Steiner
Pete Petersen

**Contributors:**
Dwight Koslowski
Roger Peterson
Dave Stonoski
Linda Terentiak

**Officers of the Yankee Air Force:**

**President:** Jon Stevens
**Vice-President:** Dick Stewart
**Secretary:** Mary Jane Medlock
**Treasurer:** Les Klima

**Directors:**
Deane Baker, Bill Colwell, Bill Hanney, Brian Higgins, Randy Hotton, Ray Hunter
Joe Leugers, Bob Campbell, Dave Steiner, Kevin Walsh, Bill Wier, Dale Worcester

**Ex Officio:** Dennis Norton

## MEETING SCHEDULE

**General Membership**
1st Wednesday of Month - 7:30 PM
All Members & Guests Welcome

**Flyable Aircraft Meeting**
2nd Wednesday of Month - 7:30 PM
NO MEETING JANUARY OR MARCH 2006

**Board Meeting**
3rd Wednesday of Month - 7:30 PM
All Members Welcome

**Staff Meeting**
December 17th - 10:00 AM
All Department Chairs & Managers

**Phone:**(734) 483 - 4030
**FAX:**(734) 483 - 5076
**www.yankeeairmuseum.org**

**CONSERVATION LAB**
2033 A Street - East Access
(734) 482 - 9810

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*Opinions expressed by our columnists are rightfully their own and do not necessarily reflect the outlook of our entire organization.*

**YANKEE AIR FORCE BYLAWS ARTICLE II - PURPOSES**

**The YAF is organized exclusively to obtain, restore, preserve and operate historic and vintage aircraft, related components for historical research and public educational purposes, and to establish a museum to facilitate the public display and exhibition of such items.**

# PAST DATES OF INTEREST

*by Pete Petersen*

| | |
|---|---|
| 7 Dec 1941 | Japanese attack Pearl Harbor, Hawaii *USS Ward* fires first shots of WWII for the US at a Japanese sub |
| 8 Dec 1941 | United States declares war on Japan |
| 8 Dec 1941 | Japanese bomb Clark Airfield, Philippines |
| 9 Dec 1941 | First US bombing mission of WWII: B-17s bomb shipping near Philippines |
| 11 Dec 1941 | Germany and Italy declare war on United States |
| 11 Dec 1914 | Radio messages received over 10-mile distance by US Army airplane |
| 17 Dec 1903 | Orville and Wilbur Wright make first powered flights |
| 17 Dec 1993 | YAF Wurtsmith Division chartered |
| 19 Dec 1941 | Rollout of first of nine B-24Cs |
| 20 Dec 1941 | *Flying Tigers* enter combat against Japan in the skies over China |
| 24 Dec 1943 | B-24s (and B-17s) make first major strike against German V-weapon sites |
| 28 Dec 1948 | 12 USAF pilots rescued from Greenland ice cap by C-47 using rocket boosters |
| 29 Dec 1939 | First flight of the XB-24 over San Diego. Flight lasted 17 minutes |
| 31 Dec 1943 | Orders placed for B-24s so far total 20,353 aircraft |
| 31 Dec 1946 | President Harry S. Truman declares WWII officially over by presidential proclamation |

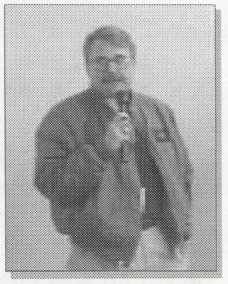
The November 50/50 raffle was won by
**Dennis Vukovich**
who donated his winnings to
the new hangar building fund

*To contact Hangar Happenin's*
E-mail: **hangarhapps@yankeeairmuseum.org**
Phone: **(734) 483-4030**

***JANUARY 2006 ISSUE DEADLINE DECEMBER 9TH, BUT BETTER TO TURN IN ITEMS DECEMBER 1ST OR BEFORE***

# The Hangar 2 Report

*by **Jon Stevens** L 4172 WR*



DAVE STONOSKI

As the book of Deuteronomy tells us, for everything there is a season and a purpose. As my term as President of the museum winds down, I'd like to share some thoughts about "my season," and some hopes for our future ones.

When I chose to run during the summer of 2001, I saw the museum at a crossroads. We'd been very successful in many ways, but I also saw some ways where we were failing ourselves, and wanted to turn those failings around. With the help of a lot of good people, we've made some significant improvements, and have paved the way for many more to come. While I can't name everyone involved (the names alone would cover several pages), I will name a few key people who played significant roles.

The biggest single change that needed to take place was unifying the organization itself. A number of departments had been created over the years, but despite a number of improvements, the department heads still weren't coordinating their efforts enough. Like many volunteer organizations, we had some strong personalities, and some of them clashed. To make things work better, some changes were made at that level, and specific issues dealt with.

All changes create their own problems, but with continued fine-tuning, we now have department heads that are concerned with building the organization, and not just their fiefdoms. A lot of people worked together to make this happen, and there are far fewer surprises taking place.

Where we wanted to go for the future also concerned me. A tentative plan had been created for an expanded museum complex, but as a whole, it wasn't very practical for us. It called for a large complex tied into a massive display hanger, and had a $75 million estimated price tag. Amongst other things, it was called the Taj Mahal and the Crystal Palace.

The single most important thing that plan did for us was to get people thinking not only that we could expand, but also that we should. The question was how were we going to do so, which led to two important actions: formalizing our relationship with the newly created *Michigan Aerospace Foundation* to raise funds for our expansion, and using the *Long Range Planning Committee* to steer our direction. Again, a lot of people have been involved, but I want to specifically thank **Dennis Norton** and **Randy Hotton**, respectively, for their efforts here.

As a museum, collecting and displaying artifacts has to be properly coordinated. Our hired curator **Gayle Roberts** (newly hired in 2001) has done an incredible job, both in the old hangar, and in our current planning for the new museum. She's brought a high level of professionalism to the job, and has grown the Collections and Artifacts Department into one of our best assets.

As 2005 winds down, our plans are still on track for moving the Willow Run Schoolhouse to the NE corner of the airport by the end of the year. As the first phase of construction, it reestablishes our presence there for the future, and lets the public know that we're serious. More announcements are planned for the near future, and you'll be hearing about them here. I'd also like to thank my predecessors who I've had the chance to work with over the years. They are, in chronological order Dennis Norton, **Harry Terpstra**, **George Whitfield**, **John Snyder**, **Randy Kimberly** and **Bill Hanney**. While I haven't always agreed with them, and didn't always follow their suggestions, they've all helped in the building process, and we all owe them our thanks for their efforts.

Some other individuals who need to be named here are **Bill Colwell**, **Ray Hunter**, **Bob Hynes**, **Dave Steiner** and **Bill Wier**. While each has done a lot of work in their specific departments, they've also played important roles behind the scenes, and for this I say thanks. It's people like them who pitch in, and then help out that much more when asked, that makes this organization what it is.

In closing, it's important to recognize that seasonal change usually isn't drastic, but rather a gradual one. **Dick Stewart** has played several significant roles in this organization for a number of years, and even more so since last October's hangar fire. As the new president, he'll continue to do so. He's the right guy at the right time, and will continue to do a great job for us. He has my complete support for the future, and I hope yours. So stick around, because the best is yet to come.

As always, if you've got anything you'd like to discuss, please feel free to e-mail me at:
**jon.stevens@yankeeairmuseum.org**

# BOARD REPORT

**19 October 2005**
by **Dave Steiner**
edited by **Dick Stewart**

AGENDA

Call to Order 7:30 PM
Pledge of Allegiance
State of Purpose
Roll Call
Approval of Agenda
Approval of Minutes: 21 September
Election Committee Report
Authorization to pay caterer
President's Report
Divisional Liaison Reports
Vice President's Report
Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Board Members' Comments
All Members' Comments
Adjournment

## Election Committee report

**Al Scotford**, committee chair reported the results of the ballot count and thanked those Yankee members who helped with the process. They were, **Gerald Barr, MaryAnn Cripps, Robert Pilz, Evelyn Rouse, John Brady, Marlis Brady, Dwight Koslowski, Don Messing and Dan Cojocar**.

1882 ballots were mailed, and 766 were returned, 40.7%, which was a slightly higher percentage than last year. Nine ballots were declared invalid. Due to the closeness of some counts, some ballots were counted three times. Any challenges to the result had to be presented to the Election Committee Chair by 1200 hours, Thursday 10 November 2005.

Dick Stewart – Elected President
Jon Stevens – Elected Vice President

William Colwell – Elected Board member
Brian Higgins – Elected Board member
Bob Hynes – Elected Board member
Dave Steiner – Elected Board member

## Catering invoice

The board authorized treasurer Klima to pay the invoice for the food at the Volunteer Appreciation Day.

## President's and Vice President's reports

**Jon Stevens**, reported on the Volunteer Appreciation Day, which was a huge success, attended by some 300 volunteers/family members (who lend them to Yankee) and a good time was had by all. He also reported on a walk through of the Wurtsmith Division by the "Lapeer" group, part of the ongoing efforts to resolve issues there. The National Museum of the United States Air Force has agreed to continue negotiations with regards to the value of its artifacts lost in the fire.

**Dick Stewart** reported about the 2005 *Spirit of Flight Award* that was presented to Yankee Air Museum October 1st in Kalamazoo. He attended along with public relations director **Bob Hynes**, and Michigan Aerospace Foundation president **Dennis Norton**.

The "white house" move may be delayed, and will certainly be more complicated if the building cannot be moved on a runway from the southwest to the northeast side of the field. Other things necessary for the use of this house by Yankee are coming along nicely. The basement excavation work has been donated, and Ford skilled trades members will be handling the mechanical work (plumbing, heating, electrical).

In Hangar 2, additional offices upstairs are prepped and being moved into (Treasurer and *Hangar Happenings* moved the week of Oct 16). Yankee business cards are now available for board members, department heads, and others who need them to perform or facilitate the functions they undertake for Yankee. Contac Don Brackett, volunteer coordinator.

## Division reports

**Willow Run** - All of the Yankee aircraft are being worked on and are undergoing annuals. New jacks for the B-17 have arrived so the landing gear refurbishing may begin. A new top turret "glass" will be made and donated by Roush Industries. The B-25 brakes will be redone. The C-47 will be repainted as needed. Last year without the necessary tools and support equipment in the fall, the annual inspections were delayed, so this year we are in much better shape.
**Northeast** – the air show season is over and year end financials are being prepared.
**Saginaw** – they hope to participate in the Bay City air show Aug 11-13, 2006, and have asked about availability of Yankee aircraft.
**Wurtsmith** – want to do an internal reorganization to make the division more committee operated.
**Florida** – in a holding pattern awaiting legal review of Yankee HQ resolution regarding the separation.

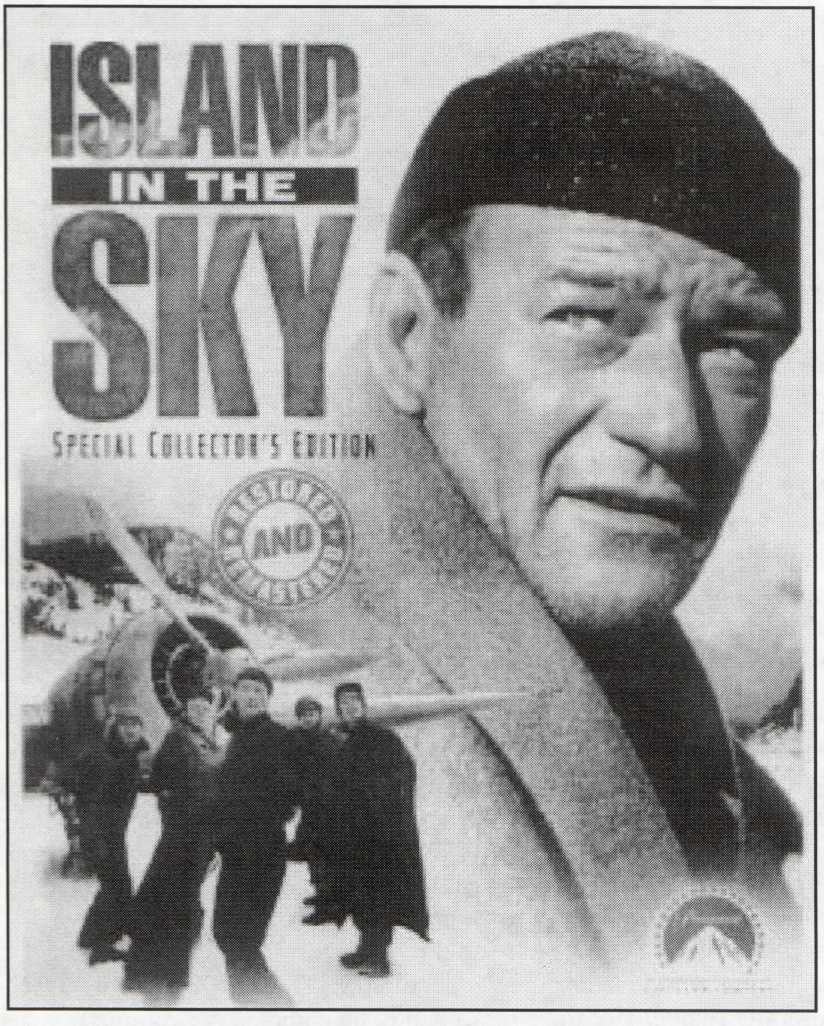
## Treasurer's report

On Les Klima's behalf, Bill Colwell reported the August and September P & L information. The reports were very favorable.

### Correction

The American flag donated by **Eric Aubrey**, reported on in last month's issue, was flown in Kabul, Afghanistan, where Eric was serving in a civilian capacity under contract with the Army Corps of Engineers. Eric served last year in Iraq. HH regrets the mistake.

# YANKEE MOVIE NIGHT RETURNS with a John Wayne classic

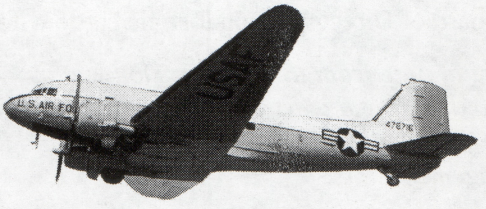



Yes we realize that in January we should be showing a movie about someplace warm and sunny, not the arctic, but it has not been possible to see this movie in quite some time. Now available on DVD, and with our new projector and screen, the Yankee movie theater is in full operation, including ***surround sound***. Don't miss it!

**Open to the public. Non-members who join Yankee this night will have $5 of the event fee go towards their membership fees.**

## RECENTLY RE-RELEASED!

Featuring the
*Yankee Doodle Dandy*
C-47 Skytrain



**Free movie, soda and popcorn**

Your admission fee is to tour the airplane and raise funds for Yankee. Bring your friends and encourage them to join!

To make reservations for this event, complete and mail this form with your check payable to:
**Yankee Air Museum - Movie Night, PO Box 590, Belleville, MI 48112-0590**
Call **(734) 483-4030** for more information or to charge by credit card ($10 min.)

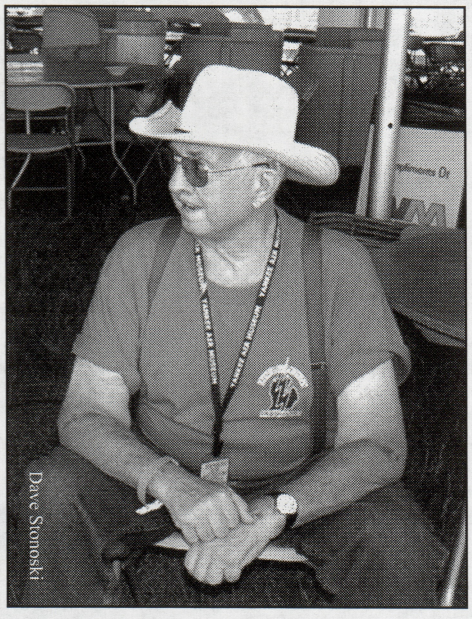
Saturday
January 21st
2006
6:00 PM

Name_____ Phone (___)_____

**Member** seats ____ x $5 = _____ **Non-Member** seats ____ x $10 = _____ Total = $_____

To have tickets sent to you by mail include a self addressed stamped envelope, otherwise they will be held at the door

## LOSS OF TRUE VOLUNTEERS - AND GOOD FRIENDS *By Daniel Tomczak*


Dave Stonoski

The Yankee Air Museum lost three great volunteers this fall. **Don Burke, Charles Greenwald and Louise Greenwald**. These three people defined the word volunteer. They were instrumental in the development and growth of the Yankee Air Force. The Yankee Air Force name is being used because that is the original and only name when the museum started back in 1980. That is when these three members joined in the early 1980's. Here is a little background on these three Charter Members.

Don Burke had membership number 61. His life revolved around the museum. He is probably best known as the Ground Equipment maintenance person, airplane tug driver, and ramp crew/chief. Don wore many hats at the museum. He installed and maintained the telephone system, helped with hangar maintenance, worked on the restoration of the C-47 and B-17. He participated in many airshows selling retail, making dogtags, and conducting tours. He would write trip reports and many other articles for *Hangar Happenin's*. Don had a natural writing ability. He was instrumental in computerizing the monthly *Hangar Happenin's* newsletter, publishing it, and having it sent out to the general membership (up to this point it was only handed out at the General Membership Meeting). Don was one of the organizers for the polishing party. For the last few years he was part of the computer technology group and Webmaster for the website. He also served on the Board of Directors. Don lost his battle with cancer on September 21 2005.

***Personal note from the author:*** *Don was my sounding board for ideas and suggestions. Ideas were discussed usually over a dinner and a drink at places like the Tin Lizzy Restaurant. An idea would come up and I would ask "It would be great if we could do this at the museum" and Don's usual reply was "Why can't we do it!". He was always full of encouragement.*

Charlie Greenwald had membership number 756. He was best known as a sheet metal repair specialist. He was an aviation mechanic in the Navy during WW2 and at many Yankee dances he would wear his original Navy Uniform. His first project with Yankee Air Force was the restoration of the Museum's newly acquired C-47. Charlie worked with **Fred Lockwood** and several other members on the aircraft. The belly of the aircraft had to be completely reskinned, and the interior was restored including new flooring and bench seats. Charlie worked with Fred Lockwood and several other members to make the C-47 a museum centerpiece. Museum members described his workmanship like a surgeon, with great attention to detail. When the B-17 arrived, he started working on it. Every winter he took a break from the B-17 restoration to repair the C-47 cowlings. When 3 - 55 gallon barrels of "floor sweepings" arrived from an United Air Lines maintenance facility, Charlie jumped in and spent many months sorting all of the parts. This gave the museum much needed nuts, bolts, washers and rivets. Charlie's truly had an amazing skill to make outstanding sheet metal repairs. The rave reviews that the museum receives about our aircraft are a result of the amazing restoration skills of people like Charlie Greenwald.

In addition to the restoration and repair of aircraft, Charlie was very involved with away airshows for the Museum aircraft. He always worked retail with his wife Louise, his specialty being the pin box. (everyone on retail knew never to tip the pin box!) At the end of a long day at an airshow, the group would have dinner, then everyone would converge on the Greenwald's room, and Charlie would break out the "Black Box" for some much enjoyed liquid refreshments. Another event that members and visitors may remember regarding Charlie is that he always made the pancakes at the Yankee Air Museum' pancake breakfasts on Memorial Day and Founder's Day.

Louise Greenwald had membership number 757. She is best known as the Retail Store Manager. She ran all aspects of the museum store for many years. This included all of the ordering, stocking and staffing of the store in the museum and with aircraft at away shows. For many years this was the major source of income to keep the Yankee Air Force in operation. Louise, along with Charlie, would travel to almost every airshow where they would set up and sell retail. All with the goal of bringing much needed income to the Yankee Air Force. This was a considerable expense to all participants because hotel rooms were usually not included with the booking of the aircraft. In addition they provided

the liquid refreshments that were contained in Charlie's "Black Box". In addition to all of these duties Louise was involved with the many events at the museum. She was always one of the dedicated volunteers that would be there from the set-up through the clean-up. She also served on the Board of Directors for the Museum. Charlie and Louise Greenwald were among the victims of the tour boat accident on Lake George in up state New York on October 2, 2005

***Personal note from the author:*** *Charlie and Louise took me in as a new member and made me feel welcome. Charlie taught me how to do aviation quality sheet metal repairs and riveting. Louise showed me the details of selling retail at airshows. They were willing to work with any person who wanted to help and was willing to learn. Charlie and Louise also brought me into their other interest – Jazz. They invited me to jazz concerts, and festivals and made me feel welcome in a new world.*

*These fine people set a high standard for all Museum volunteers. They volunteered for the good of the organization, not for self glory, or a title. They worked long hours, many days a week, for over 25 years. Nobody was paid, in fact they paid for most things out of their own pockets. These few people, along with a handful of other members, helped build the Yankee Air Museum into what it is today. It is said that in any organization 10% of the people do 90% of the work. These three people were among the 10 %. The museum has come a long way in 25 years. There were times that the museum's funds were so low that a hat was passed to pay the electric bill. The Yankee Air Force just barely existed, but the volunteer members made it work. Most of all they had fun and made the organization fun for everyone. Don, Charlie and Louise – we will miss you.*

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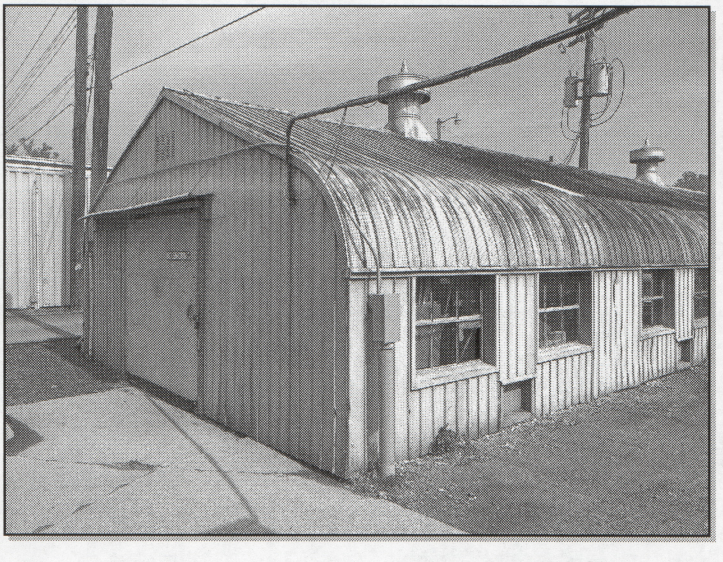
## House....and now a Hut

*by Lauren B. Sickels*

"So, why isn't this house moved yet?" The Development Committee members hear that a lot, given that the move is their responsibility. But, did you know . . .

- that no less than four separate government agencies require permits?
- that it will take three weeks just to cut and lift the 200-ton concrete block structure off its existing foundation?

Mike Miller of EQ Holding Company, owner of The White House—as he refers to it—has been working with us to accomplish the move. Numerous meetings are taking place to determine the best route to take; safety and logistics are numerous.



We are setting plans in place for a mid-December cut and lift, followed by a day's move across the taxi-way, and a mid-January set onto our new location under the willow trees on A Street, just west of Beck Road.

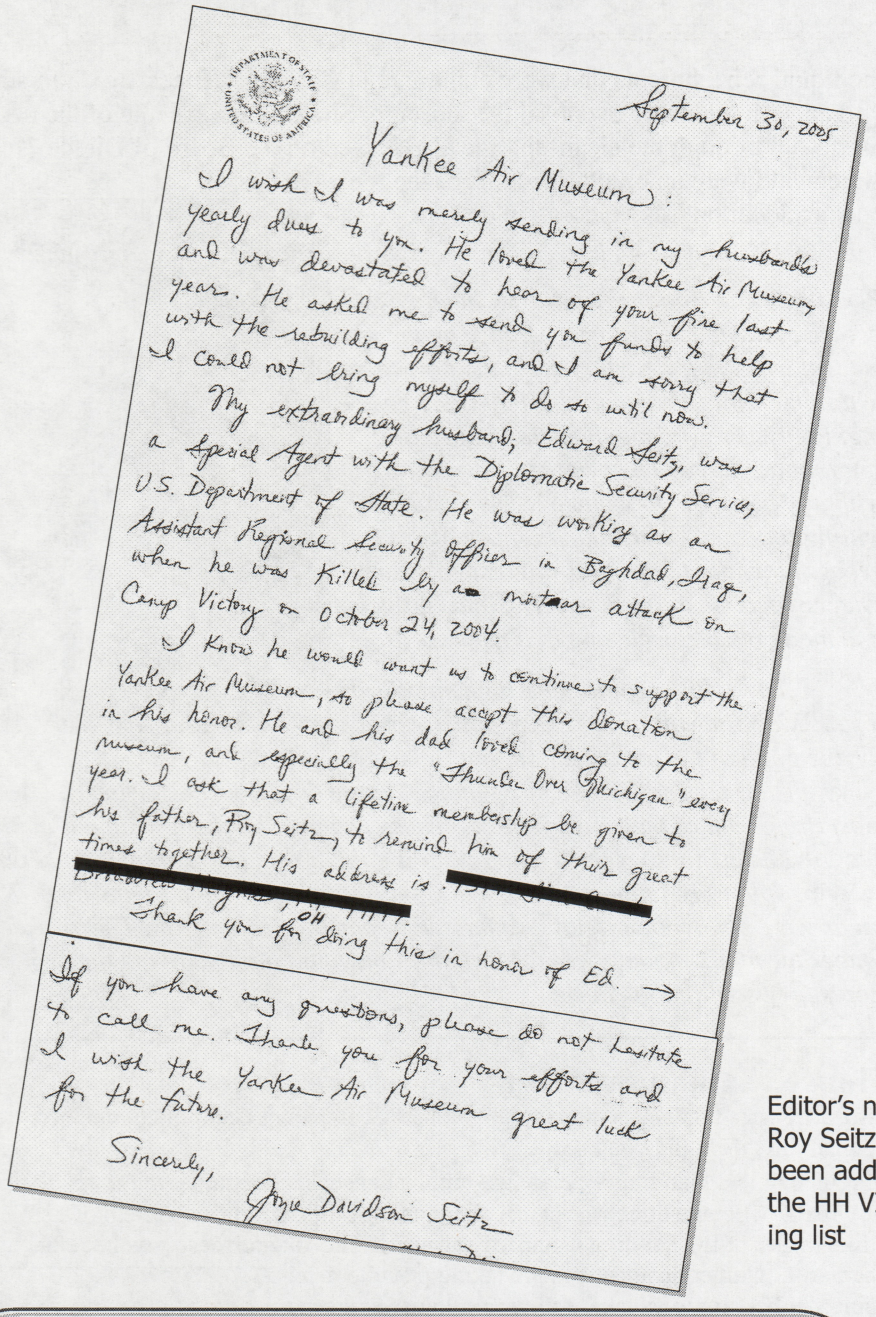
Now, if that isn't enough to do, we got a call from the Belleville Vocational Center (BVC) in early October offering YAM a Quonset hut that originally resided at Willow Run Airport. Just like Greenfield Village, the buildings at Willow Run Airport were shifted around like lightweights. (On the road into Belleville, one can see the airport church—similar to the one in the village—on the right.)

**Bob Campbell** stepped forward and offered to take this on. With our help in numbering pieces to ease the reassembly, he has gathered a crew to disassemble the hut and store it on the BVC site, pending permit approval. Once approval is received—although tentative approval has been given by the airport authority, the hut will temporarily be set beside the static aircraft display. The hut is unusual, being a knee-walled, pointed arc hut; typically we expected Quonset huts to be a half-circle.

## Fabric classes start Saturday 3 December at 0900

**Bill Rodgers** will be holding a series of fabric covering classes (for all you dopes) beginning this month. Tuition for members will be $20, a portion of which will go to the building recovery fund. The balance will cover materials costs for the classes, including text book. Cost for non-members is $30, and if they join December 3rd, the extra $10 will be applied toward membership fee. Registration is on-site only, in ***heated*** Hangar 2. Show up at 0900. Class size is not restricted, so bring all your friends. The fee covers all sessions over the winter. Future dates will be announced. All steps of the fabric covering process will be demonstrated, right through paint. This Yankee event gives you a chance to get some hands-on experience regarding a process from the golden age of aviation.

Don't miss this opportunity!



September 30, 2005

Yankee Air Museum:

I wish I was merely sending in my membership yearly dues to you. He loved the Yankee Air Museum and was devastated to hear of your fire last years. He asked me to send you funds to help with the rebuilding efforts, and I am sorry that I could not bring myself to do so until now.

My extraordinary husband, Edward Seitz, was a Special Agent with the Diplomatic Security Service, U.S. Department of State. He was working as an Assistant Regional Security Officer in Baghdad, Iraq, when he was killed by a mortar attack on Camp Victory on October 24, 2004.

I know he would want us to continue to support the Yankee Air Museum, so please accept this donation in his honor. He and his dad loved coming to the museum, and especially the "Thunder Over Michigan" every year. I ask that a lifetime membership be given to his father, Roy Seitz, to remind him of their great times together. His address is: [redacted]

Thank you for doing this in honor of Ed. →

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me. Thank you for your efforts and I wish the Yankee Air Museum great luck for the future.

Sincerely,

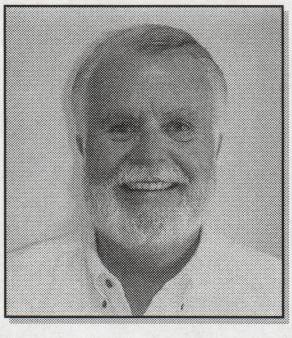
Joyce Davidson Seitz

Editor's note: Roy Seitz has been added to the HH VIP mailing list

## Meeting notice

The flyable aircraft meeting that normally convenes on the second Wednesday of each month, 7:30pm, will **NOT** meet in January or March - Norm Ellickson

## WANT SOMETHING TO DO ... BUT DON'T KNOW WHAT? NEED SOMETHING DONE ... BUT DON'T KNOW WHO?



**Don Brackett** is our Volunteer Coordinator. Contact Don to see how your unique talents and skills can help Yankee Air Museum rebuild, grow and succeed!

**(248) 425-2855**
**donb-38@sbcglobal.net**

If you have a job to be done, Don suggests that you write a brief description of what you need done, when, how long it might take, and any special skills that might be required.

**Don will match a volunteer to the job!**

## Event planning and facilitators needed for *your* Yankee events

Long Range Planning Committee is in need of event captains/facilitators to help take the load off people who are already taking on quite a lot of responsibility at Yankee Air Museum. You won't be alone in helping a Yankee event go smoothly, but you will be the point person to be assigned helper/volunteers (maybe recruit a few too) and they will report to you. It will be your job for one event only, to make sure things happen and go smoothly.

While being an event captain may not be as rewarding or glamorous as being a Garbage Grunt, events to raise money and get members and the public to the museum are essential to our long term survival. A new captain will be in charge of each event, and report to and be aided by Event Coordinator Debbie Stewart and/or other LRPC members.

Here are the list of events for which volunteers are needed to captain or just help out.

Christmas Party
December 10th - report to Debbie Stewart

Movie Night
January 21st

Hearts to Yankee Auction/Dinner
February 18th - Debbie Stewart

Movie Night
March

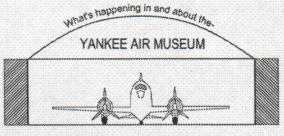
Polishing Party
April

Spaghetti Dinner
April

Memorial Day Open House
May

Call the museum at (734) 483-4030 or contact Don Brackett, (information on page 8) so he may get you in touch with the proper people.

**THANKS FOR HELPING OUT *YOUR* MUSEUM!**




## Connie's Corner



Connie Kosek

Sunday, October 2, 2005, was a beautiful warm fall day in Michigan. My hubby Joe and I decided to make our annual trek to the Plymouth Orchard and Cider Mill. The sun, the kids and the petting zoo animals were out (so were the bees).

Although our children (and their children) that we used take to the cider mill are all grown up, we still love those sips of cider, pigging out on the freshly baked donuts, and walking around the farm hand-in-hand, as we've done for the past 59 years. At 3:00 pm we went home to enjoy the baseball and football games on TV.

Meanwhile, in New York State on the same Sunday, October 2nd, several hundred miles away, **Charlie** and **Louise Greenwald** (YAF members), also went out to enjoy the beautiful day. They went on a small sight-seeing boat cruise with forty-five other Michiganders to see the fall colors reflect on beautiful Lake George.

Charlie and Louise also loved being together, often walking together hand-in-hand. Charlie, being a WWII Navy man loved the water, and boats. They came to the annual USO type dances at the YAF hanger – Charlie, being one of the few men who could still get into his WWII Navy uniform sixty years later. Charlie and Louise were two of the twenty people to drown when their boat capsized on Lake George.

So dear friends, the tragedies of the past few years – the 2004 Tsunami and Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Stan in 2005, claimed thousands of friends and relatives who died without getting a chance to say goodbye. Remember to give your kids, grandchildren, spouses and friends a big hug. Look the other way if they make mistakes or irritate you. Treat each other as if it were your last day, and remember to hold hands. If someone stumbles, you can help hold them up. Most of all – enjoy life.

**MORE IS BETTER. YANKEE AIR MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP HAS SURPASSED THE 4100 MEMBER LEVEL!**

## Development Committee Begins to Soar *by Lauren B. Sickels*

The Development Committee got into high gear late summer with animated discussions on the schoolhouse move, long-term fundraising, and focused goals. In October, we were offered a Quonset hut with a short "move-or-lose" time frame, and with the incredible help of YAM's volunteers under **Bob Campbell**, we were able to accept the offer.

One of our immediate goals is to, once again, establish for YAM a prominent visual presence for members and visitors alike. To this end, we plan on having both the schoolhouse and Quonset on new footings near our old site by late winter '06.

*Our mission is:*
The YAM Development Committee (YAMDEV) mission is to expand both the capital and operational funds coming into the organization. YAMDEV will accomplish this mission by:

- fostering relationships with corporate sponsors and foundations;
- seeking and securing both short and long term donations and grants;
- focusing on sustainable long-term growth as well as special projects of tactical and strategic value.

# *Hearts to Yankee* tickets

## Dinner and Auction event

Number of tickets _____ @ $60 per person
Total enclosed or to be charged below $_____

- Table Sponsorship (for 8 people) $400 (with mention in program)
- My check is enclosed
  Payable to:
  Yankee Air Museum - Hearts
  PO Box 590
  Belleville, MI 48112-0590

**Your reservation will be held at the door, tickets will not be mailed**

Please charge my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Name on Card_____

Card number _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____

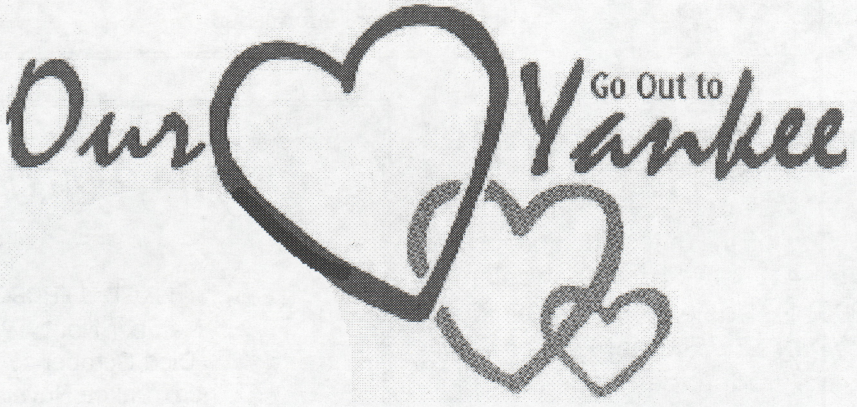
I am unable to attend the *Hearts to Yankee* event, but would like to support the Yankee Air Museum with a tax deductible gift of $ _____

# YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

Where History Flies

## Invites You To Our

## *Fund Raising Auction & Dinner*




**Saturday, February 18th**

✈ 5:00pm - Semi Formal / Black Tie Optional

**St. Clement Banquet Center**

313-271-3110

19600 Ford Road, Dearborn, MI

**$60.00 per person**

**Call 734-483-4030 For Information**

**yankeeairmuseum.org**

**Proceeds to Benefit Museum Building Fund**

MUSTANG TO NORSEMAN: WWII ADVENTURES OF PUNCHY POWELL
AIR CLASSICS
Where History Flies
THOSE WONDERFUL WACOS
Vintage biplanes at annual gathering
TANGO TANGO FLIES
Exclusive first aerial photos of the second Me 262
THUNDER!
After the disastrous 2004 fire, the Yankee Air Museum fights back with a magnificent gathering of Warbirds including eight Flying Fortresses
MYSTERIOUS DOUGLAS DF
Little-known Douglas flying boat was used as the design basis for a Japanese warplane
AMERICA'S LAST FLYING CONNIE NEEDS YOUR HELP

## WWII Pilots, Crew and Willow Run Workers Needed for Video Documentary

Tom Stevens, writer and producer of an up-coming documentary about the people, the planes and the Willow Run bomber plant that comprise the history preserved by the Yankee Air Museum and Yankee Air Force, is looking for interview subjects who lived this history!

Your story is important. If you flew any of the planes, or served as crew or operations or support, or were in any way involved in the manufacture of bombers at Willow Run, please consider being interviewed on camera for this project. Taping will be on-going and scheduled at your convenience either at Willow Run or within the metropolitan Detroit area at this time.

Alternately, if you are out of town, please consider being interviewed if you have any future travel plans that will bring you to the Detroit area.

Please contact Tom Stevens by email at: tstevens268632MI@comcast.net or call 734.776.0694 for more information.

## 2005 Thunder images in aviation magazine

Make sure you get a copy of the latest edition of *Air Classics* magazine (Vol. 41 No. 11, on newsstands until December 31, 2005) for some incredible pictures of ***Thunder Over Michigan 2005***. The *Yankee Lady* is on the cover, and there are fourteen pages of color photos and details about aircraft at the event.

Call *Air Classics* at (818) 700-6868 if you can't locate a copy of this collector edition issue. To subscribe to *Air Classics* call (818) 286-3124, 9-5 Pacific Time.

## From the gift shop - Thunder shirts

Navy Blue, official Thunder 2005 "GATHERING OF WW2 BOMBERS" T-shirts, sizes M - 2X are now for sale while the supply lasts. These are offered to members only at this time and can be picked up during normal working hours Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday at the Retail office in Hangar 2. If the Retail door is locked locate **Gary Shelton** or **Dave Wright** who will open the office for your purchase. Sorry, no mail orders at this time. Cost is $15.

Side note: The DVD's of Thunder 2005 ordered from *I do Visual Productions* started arriving via mail November 3rd.

## *In Memory Of...*

Herb Truesdale
Member No. L 1958 WR
Died October 13, 2005
Joined Yankee November, 1984
Became a Life Member

James Ledbetter
Founder Member #45
Died October 28, 2005

Robert Harrington
Member #3528
Died June 17, 2005

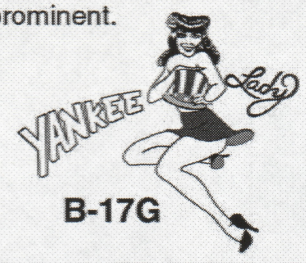
## Discounted Detroit Auto Show tickets

If you are heading to the Detroit Auto show in January, **Bob Richards** can get you discounted tickets. Contact him at (313) 562-4013, or he is at Hangar 2 on most Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays performing hangar maintenance. Volunteer to help Bob and his crew around the hangar. There's always something going on.

# Yankee HOLIDAY GIFTS for the *propeller head* in your family

## STAY WARM IN STYLE

Order our new *Yankee Lady* sweatshirt or winter jacket. Both items are navy blue and feature embroidery sewn on the front and back. Six bright colors are used. Silver, red and black are most prominent.




*LEFT FRONT CHEST 4" DIA.*

Our jacket will keep you warm this winter. It has a wind-resistant nylon shell lined with fleece. Stretch knit waistband and cuffs keep the cold out. Exterior and interior pockets are secured with pull tab zippers. The heavyweight sweatshirt has long sleeves and a crew neck.

YANKEE AIR FORCE

*BACK OF JACKET OR SWEATSHIRT 10" WIDE X 7" HIGH*

New Design

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Winter Jacket | **$159.00** | Michigan residents | **$168.54** |
| Sweatshirt | **$69.00** | Michigan residents | **$73.14** |

**CIRCLE the item you wish to order:** **Winter Jacket** **Heavyweight Sweatshirt**

**CIRCLE the size:** **Men's Medium** **Men's Large** **Men's XL** **Men's 2XL**

Allow 3 to 6 weeks for free delivery. Use previous issues of *Hangar Happenin's* to buy other items not shown in this ad. You can also click on *Yankee Store* at *yankeeairmuseum.org* to print out an order form. **ORDER NOW!**

Make your check payable to the **YANKEE AIR FORCE**

**Name** _____

**Address** _____

**City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____

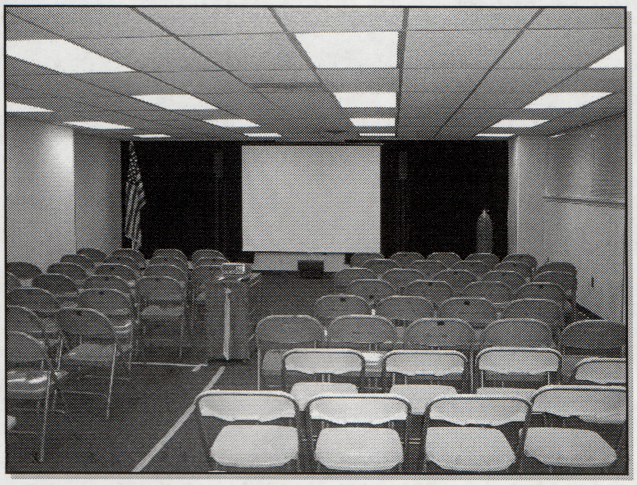
**Phone** _____ **Best time to call** _____

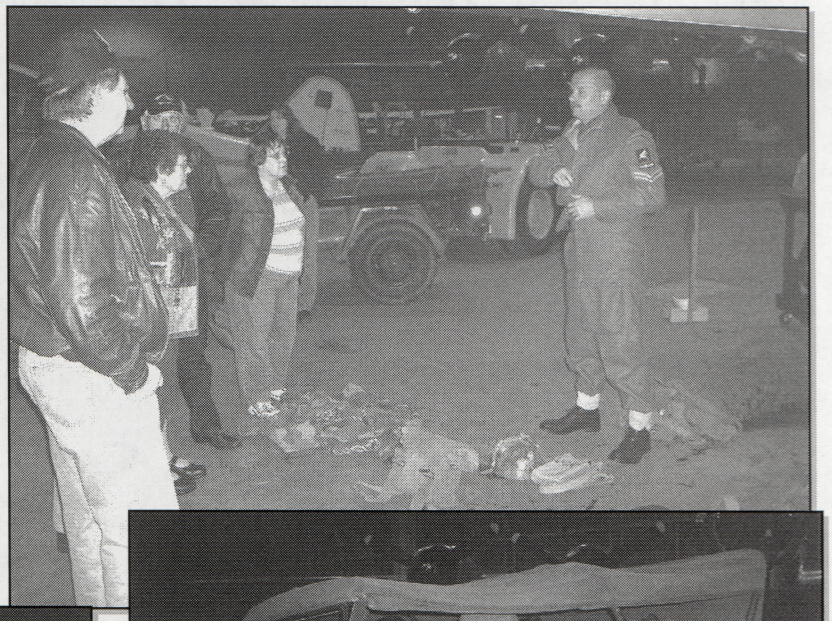
**E-MAIL address** _____

**Mail this order form to:**

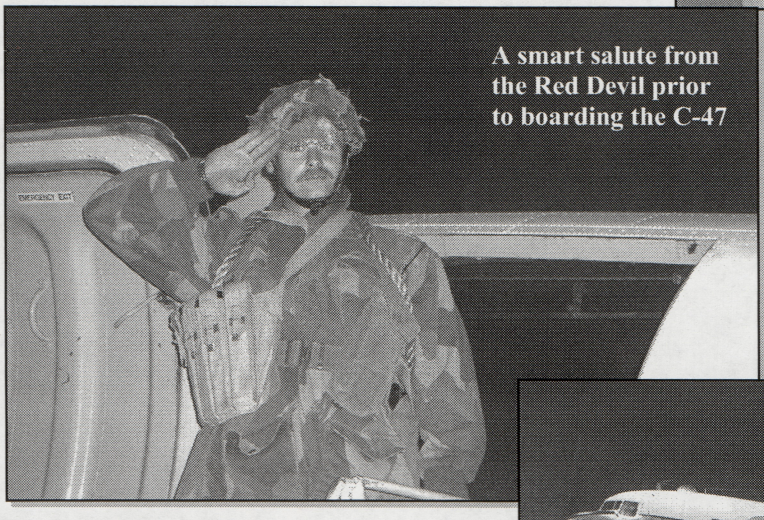
*YANKEE LADY*
MAIL ORDER OFFER
YANKEE AIR FORCE
P.O. BOX 590
BELLEVILLE, MI 48112-0590

# YANKEE MOVIE NIGHT



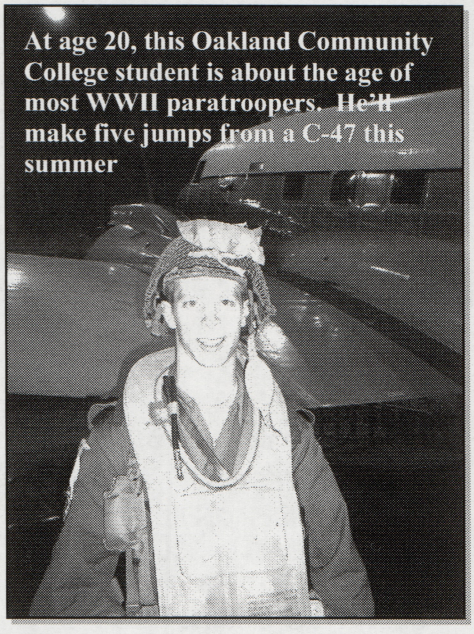


Above - Yankee movie theater very well done by **Jane Spires** and crew awaits patrons. Above right - British "Red Devil" paratrooper demonstrates his gear to movie goers. Right - Victory sign from re-enactors in the jeep they drove to movie night.



**A smart salute from the Red Devil prior to boarding the C-47**

**British jumper ready for action**

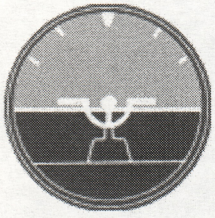


**At age 20, this Oakland Community College student is about the age of most WWII paratroopers. He'll make five jumps from a C-47 this summer**

The return of Yankee Movie Night October 15th was a great success with nearly 60 people in attendance at the new, very deluxe and well appointed Yankee Movie Theater, decorated by **Jane Spires** and crew. The new projection system with surround sound was enjoyed by all and will be well used in coming events. Re-enactors, including a former British paratrooper outfitted as a British Red Devil (complete with accent and smart salute) showed attendees some of the intricacies and gear that the jumpers used to prepare for the jump. One re-enactor will travel to the plains states this summer to actually jump several times from a C-47, including once in full paratrooper gear.

Next movie night is January 21st — mark you calendar now and join the fun!

# ON THE HORIZON



Ray,...should we tell Gunner about the 3G roll?

## AIR PARK

East side of Willow Run Airport
at Beck & Ecorse Roads

## HANGAR

Southwest side of Willow Run Airport
in Hangar 2

www.yankeeairmuseum.org

## DECEMBER

Saturday 3rd — **Fabric Classes start** - Hangar 2, 0900, details on page eight (fee charged)

Wed 7th — General Membership meeting - time set aside for; ***where were you***?
Attend and briefly relate to us your personal recollections of 7 December 1941

Sunday 18th — Christmas Party - UAW Local 735 2 pm
48055 Michigan Avenue, Canton, MI (near Denton Rd)
***Pot Luck style - please bring a dish to pass***

## JANUARY

Saturday 21st (details, page five) — Movie Night - ***Island in the Sky***, starring John Wayne

## FEBRUARY

## *Our Hearts go out to Yankee*

Fund Raising Auction and Dinner
St. Clement Banquet Center
19600 Ford Road
Dearborn, Michigan
5pm - Semi-formal/ Black Tie Optional
Tickets $60 each
For information and tickets
(734) 483-4030 or
www.yankeeairmuseum.org

Saturday 18th

REMEMBER TO GO TO THE YANKEE WEB SITE AND CLICK ON MEMBER'S PHOTO GALLERY AND VIEW ALL THE IMAGES IN THIS ISSUE OF HH AND MORE... **IN COLOR!**

PLEASE PHONE FOR DETAILS **(734) 483-4030**. WATCH FOR UPDATES AT **www.yankeeairmuseum.org**.

## OV-10 Bronco Association Golden Wrench award presented to Dick "Chief" Rice

**OV-10 Bronco Association**
505 NW 38th Street
Hangar 33s
Fort Worth, Texas 76106

October 10, 2005

Richard B Rice

"Dick's" Bronco at YAM 2004 Vietnam event impressed the forward air controller (FAC) pilots who attended and were part of the program

Dear Fried,

We know this has been a tough year for you and we hope this letter finds you well and healthy.

We missed you at Bronco Fest V this year. Just wasn't the same without you.

Enclosed you will find a heartfelt award for your dedicated service and sacrifice to the OV-10 Bronco community. Your airplane may be gone, but we who care haven't forgotten you. You are still and will always be a contributor to our heritage.

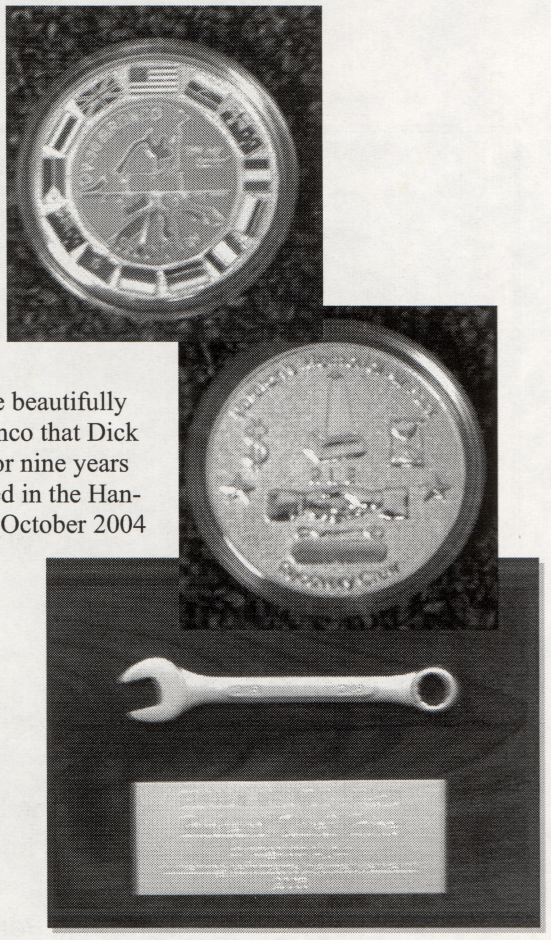
I have also included a limited edition Bronco Association Challenge Coin. These coins are used to raise funds for our aircraft restoration effort and given to volunteers who serve our association in some special and meaningful manner. The front of the coin depicts our international logo featuring flags of all the countries where the OV-10 has served. If you open the case, on the reverse, you will see a monument honoring our fallen comrades. It is surrounded by the elements needed to restore aircraft, namely cooperation, money, time and effort. You will also notice the letters P.I.E., our motto; preservation, inspiration and education.

Thanks again. Your contribution is an important part of our success.

Best regards,

Jim Hodgson
President

PS Don't miss the next Bronco Fest either.



The beautifully restored Bronco that Dick worked on for nine years was destroyed in the Hangar fire on 9 October 2004

YANKEE AIR MUSEUM
P O BOX 590
BELLEVILLE MI 48112-0590 USA

***Saluting MORE THAN 4100 members worldwide !***

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